

North Syracuse Central School  
District

# NorthStar Lights

Issue #9 | January 15, 2021



Hello North Syracuse Central School District Parents, Guardians, Teachers and Staff!

As you know, we are planning for our students to return to the hybrid schedule on Tuesday, January 19. We look very forward to seeing students in our buildings again next week!

During the period of remote instruction these past two weeks, the District expanded meal pick up options for families to include morning pick up at Lakeshore Road Elementary School. We are pleased to announce that we will be able to continue that school's Wednesday morning meal pick up as we move into the new year. For those of you that may not be familiar with meal pick up options, the District offers evening meal pick up at all secondary schools each Monday through Thursday and morning meal pick up at two schools. [More information about meal pick up is available online by clicking here.](#)

Throughout the next several weeks we will be working with the Onondaga County Department of Health to coordinate dates for additional asymptomatic testing in our schools. We will communicate testing schedules with our families and staff as testing dates are determined.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support as we work through the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,  
Daniel D. Bowles, Superintendent of Schools

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**NSCSD January 15 Shining Star: KWS Bear Road**

Elementary School Teacher Janelle Jacobson





This week's Shining Star is Janelle Jacobson, a kindergarten teacher at Karl W. Saile Bear Road Elementary School.

One of Janelle's favorite quotes, "Students don't care how much you know until they know how much you care," by American author John C. Maxwell, motivates her to always teach with kindness and compassion. Ms. Jacobson has been teaching in the North Syracuse Central School District for the past four years and at Bear Road Elementary for three of those years. In her short time at that school though Janelle has already had an impact.

[Click here to read more about Ms. Jacobson.](#)

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## Share a Shout Out to a Shining Star!

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to unexpected challenges to both teaching and learning but we know that many of our students and teachers are thriving in this environment. We also know other staff are going above and beyond to keep students and families safe and informed.

We'd love to hear (and share) the inspirational stories you have so we can keep the positive vibes going. If you'd like to recognize a North Syracuse Central School District student, teacher, employee or even a volunteer, please complete a short online form giving us some basic information.

A huge "THANK YOU" to everyone who has already submitted nominations for shining stars! We're excited to have received so many entries and are working to put together the more than a dozen stories we have already gotten. Keep checking this newsletter for your nomination!

["Nominate" a Shining Star](#)

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## Meal Pick Up Options for NSCSD Families

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## Vote for C-NS Music Groups in The SAMMYS!

Two different C-NS musical groups are up for vote in this year's Sammy's (Syracuse Area Music Awards) in the People's Choice category. Don't miss your chance to vote for the C-NS Jazz Group and the C-NS Northstars Marching Band in the Academic Organization category. You can vote once each day with round 1 voting ending on Sunday, January 17. Groups advancing to the second round will be announced on January 19. [Click here to cast your vote.](#)

## C-NS Boys' Volleyball Supports Make-A-Wish of CNY



Despite a delayed volleyball season, the need for granting wishes from Make-A-Wish of CNY to children with life threatening conditions has never been greater. On January 11, representatives of the Cicero-North Syracuse High School Boys' Volleyball program dropped off a total of \$1575 to Make-A-Wish of CNY.

[#northstarpride](#)

## Wellness Wednesdays

As we move into a new year, our Wellness Committee wants to remind our students, staff and families that it is OK to Not be OK. Many of us are feeling that while the calendar says 2021, in many ways it still feels like 2020!

This week we will focus on how to figure out what we are feeling and how to manage our feelings. This is great for adults as well as kids!

[Click here to visit the Wellness Wednesday website for some great ideas!](#)

When NSCSD school buildings had to close their doors to students and staff in the Spring of 2020, the District started "Wellness Wednesdays" as a way of pulling families together in spite of COVID-19. As the 2020-2021 school year progresses, we need to connect now, more than ever, so we've gotten the "Wellness Wednesdays" band back together. The Wellness Wednesdays website will be our way of sharing resources, information and importantly YOUR thoughts, photos and artwork.

[Visit the Wellness Wednesdays Website](#)

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## Use the SchoolMessenger App to Control the Types of Messages you Receive from the NSCSD

The North Syracuse Central School District uses the [SchoolMessenger notification system](#) for text/email and telephone messages to our families. The SchoolMessenger app is also available for use on mobile devices and can be downloaded through Google Play on in the App Store. [Click here to download the SchoolMessenger mobile app user guide.](#)

If you have a child enrolled at one of our schools, you will automatically receive phone call, email and text alerts pertaining to that school and will receive some district-wide messages. Different messages are sent out in various alert formats. [Click here to learn more about message types used by the NSCSD.](#)

Control the messages you receive!

Parents and staff can sign-up for the [SchoolMessenger App](#) to control the types of messages receive from the district. By signing up the this FREE service, parents and staff can opt into or out of message categories. [Click here to sign-up for the app or log-in on your computer.](#)

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## C-NS Seniors - Apply for the CORE Federal Credit Union Walter Bazydlo Memorial Scholarship Award

College expenses add up between tuition, books, and housing. CORE may be able to help with one of our scholarships. Any graduating high school senior, or full-time college student at an accredited degree granting institution, who is a member of CORE Federal Credit Union can apply. Several \$1,000 scholarships are granted each year.

If you're a student, or know someone who is eligible, applications are being accepted now through March 12, 2021.

A number of \$1000 scholarships will be granted based on financial need and the academic performance of the applicant. [Click here to download the application form.](#)

## Send Us Your Photos!



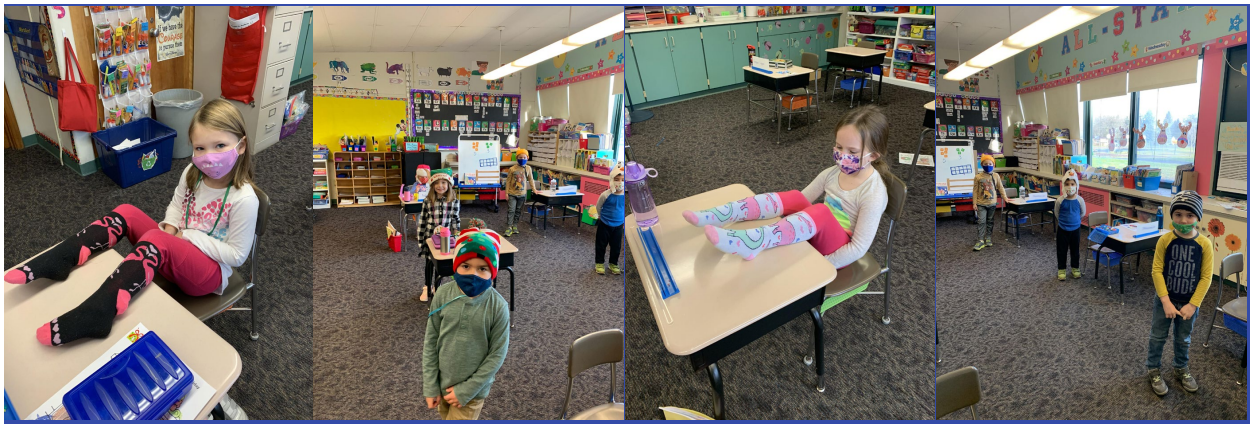
Because this school year has been so different, it has been challenging to get new photos for our District website at [www.nscsd.org](http://www.nscsd.org) and other publications. So...we need your help!

We would love to share your photos of at home school environments. If you're willing to share, please send your high quality images using the link below. We'll be using your photos in this newsletter and other publications throughout the school year. Additionally, high resolution, horizontal photos will be considered for the District website.

*Pictured above: C-NS Seniors Samantha R. and Alexis S. are among the many students in the Class of 2021 finding unique and creative ways to celebrate their senior year. The best friends were able to spend time together this past fall by apple picking together and staying socially distant in the great outdoors. If you would like to show how your C-NS Seniors are making the best of their final year of high school, please share your photos by emailing them to Laurie Cook at [lcCook@nscsd.org](mailto:lcCook@nscsd.org).*

*Pictured below: Jennifer Rosen, a kindergarten teacher at Cicero Elementary School, shared pictures of her students participating in their school's Silly Hat and Silly Sock Day in December.*

[Click here to view our parent notification regarding student photos.](#)



Submit Your Photos Now!



Onondaga County  
**POLICE REFORM**  
& Reinvention Collaborative

Similar to other communities in New York State, Onondaga County has combined with its municipalities, to address a comprehensive plan for police reform. Community forums will be taking place throughout the month of January. [Click here](#) to learn more and to participate in the online sessions.

## Important Upcoming Dates

**January 18**  
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - No School for Students/Staff

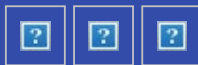
**January 19**  
Students Return to Hybrid Learning

**January 25**  
Board of Education Meeting

**February 1**  
20 Week Report Period Ends (Gr. 5-12)  
Board of Education Meeting

## Quick Links

- [Technical Help Website](#)
- [Family Wellness Website](#)
- [Online Calendar](#)
- [Google Classroom Help](#)
- [Meal Pickup Information](#)
- [NYS COVID-19 Report Card](#)
- [Superintendent's Updates](#)



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SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.